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## PRESTON PAPERS.

(From the originals in the Virginia State Library.)

(Continued)

GENERAL DAVIDSON (1) TO GENERAL SUMNER.(2)

Camp Rocky River 10<sup>th</sup> October 1780

Sir

I have the Pleasure of handing you very agreeable Intelligence from the West. Ferguson the great Partizan has mis-carried this we are assured of by M<sup>r</sup> Tate Brigade Major in-General Sumpter's late Brigade The particulars from that Gentleman's Mouth stand thus; that Colonels Campbell, Cleveland, Shelby, Sevier, Williams, Brandon, Lacy, etc. formed a Conjoint Body near Gilbert Town consisting of 3000—From this Body were selected 1600 good Horse, who immediately went in search of Colonel Ferguson, who was making his way to Charlotte—our People overtook him well posted on King's Mountain and in the evening of the 7th Instant at 4 o'clock, began the attack which lasted forty seven minutes, Colonel Ferguson fell in the action besides 150 of his men—810 were made prisoners, including the British—150 of the prisoners are wounded—1500 Stands of Arms fell into our Hands. Colonel Ferguson had about 1400 Men, our People surrounded them, and the enemy surrendered. We lost about

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(1) William Davidson, Major and Lt. Col., Continental Line, and Brigadier General, N. C. Militia, killed in action at Cowan's Ford, Feb. 1, 1781. He was born in Lancaster Co., Pa., in 1746, but the family removed to Rowan Co., N. C., in 1750. Davidson College, N. C., is named after him.

(2) Jethro Sumner, born in Nansemond County, Va., about 1730, but removed to North Carolina in youth. He was appointed Colonel of the 3d N. C. Regiment, 1776, served under Washington, Gates and Greene, was commissioned Brigadier General in 1779, and died in Warren Co., N. C. about 1790.

20 men among whom is Major Chronicle of Lincoln County, Colonel Williams is mortally wounded, the number of our wounded cannot be ascertained. This blow will certainly effect the British very considerably. The designs of our conquering Friends near Kings Mountain not certainly known, it is most probable that they will secure their prisoners in or over the Mountains and proceed toward Charlotte—The Brigade Major who gives us this was in the action. The above is true. The Blow is great and I give you Joy upon the Occasion.

I am Etc.,

[Signed] Wm. Davidson  
Hon'ble Brig' Gen'l Sumner

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GENERAL SUMMER TO GENERAL GATES.

Camp Yadkin October 10<sup>th</sup>  
8 o'clock evening

Sir

With great satisfaction I Inform you of the Defeat of Major Ferguson on Kings Mountain 4 o'clock Saturday afternoon The particulars I enclose you, as received a few minutes ago Also a letter from Gen'l Davidson's of his securing twenty nine Barrels of Powder which was secreted some time since near Charlotte

I am Sir ,with great Respect, etc.

[Signed] Jethro Sumner

P. S. The Draught Gen. Davidson mentioned of the enemies lines was omitted, by some means or other, being not inclosed to me, but you may expect it next express from this if the mistake is discovered J. S.

(Endorsement) Acct of Ferguson's defeat Oct. 1780  
General Gates

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GEORGE SKILLEN TO WILLIAM PRESTON

Sir

I have two companies of volunteers which will be ready to march in less than ten days; the ones to be commanded by

Capt. Handly the other by Capt. James Robinson (3) (Late Capt. Lockhart's Lieut.) I have had a good dail of trouble & Expense But I am Rejoiced I had Sucksess, I would be obliged to you to wright me by the Bearer William Cross and let me know what you have Done in your County when you thinks your Volunteers will March and the way they are to goe, as also, your Advice which way you would think they had Best March to Carolina from this County, and anney things Else you might think best to forward the Service as I am in a Crowd will ad no more but am

With Respects your Most  
Obed'ie't Humble Sevnt

George Skillen

N. B. I expect to march the Volunteers from this place by Monday Eve a week at furdest, 100 in all I am sure of But am nearly sure of 120 Exclusive of Col'o Crockats Companies it has been Reproted here that the English has Retreted to Charles Town and that there would be no need for the Voulenteers but this I did not believe

[Addressed] Public Service

Col'o Wm. Preston

per express in Montgomery

[Endorsement] Col'o Skillern to Col Preston

13 October 1780

Col'o Skillern Letter public Business

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(3) These companies were to join the Southern Army. In Chalkley's *Abstracts of Augusta Records* is the pension declaration, Sept. 5, 1833, of John Hewett, who states that he volunteered Sept. 18, 1780, under Capt. James Robinson, and with the Company under Capt. Alexander Handley marched to the Southern States under Major David Campbell, joined General Morgan two days after the battle of the Cowpens, and took the place of the militia of Rockbridge and Augusta, "who acted so bravely and were about to be relieved." Capt. Handley and John Allen were taken prisoners. Col. Williams commanded. Hewett also states that he had served under Major Patrick Lockhart at Yorktown. James Robinson was probably James Robertson, afterwards noted in early Tennessee history. It is also probable that he was the James, son of George Robinson, of Augusta (who died in 1763).. Capt. Handly probably belonged to a family which removed from Chester Co., Pa., to Augusta about 1750.

## PATRICK (4) LOCKHART TO WILLIAM PRESTON

Botetourt, Dec. 5, 1780

Sir

On my arrival at Surrey Court House I was Informed by Col. Armstrong that Gen. Gates had ordered the British prisoners to Hillsborough the Tories that refused to Inlist was ordered to Halifax to be Tried for Treason, but I was informed by Mr. Blum at the Moravian Town that they had escaped from the Guard but of this I am not certain. Gen'l. Gates is much Disatisfied with Col. Armstrongs Proceedings and has Cited him to repair to Head Quarters to answer for his Conduct

By the best Intelligence I had Lord Cornwallis' head Quarters are in the Fork of the Congaree, a garrison of three hundred Men left at Camden & Gen'l Gates some where near Charlotte Gen'l Sumpter had lately worsted Tarleton's Legion in two Skirmishes killing about one hundred and ten & made several prisoners Among the former was a Major Weenes & Taleton dangerously wounded, but escaped. Capt. McClenachan, Barnett & Pawlin has applied for the Division of the money arising from the Sales of the Tories Effects due their Companies, but I am at loss to know how to settle it as I do not know whether we are to give any part to the Montgomery Militia or not, I was never informed any thing about the sales there or what was finally concluded I expect a meeting at Court and a Line ro Coll. Crocket, Capt. McClenachen or myself might enable us to adjust the matter.

I am Sir

Y<sup>r</sup> Most Ob<sup>t</sup> & H<sup>ble</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

Pat. Lockhart

[Address] Came to hand the 16<sup>th</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup>ber

Col. William Preston

Montgomery County

[Endorsement] Capt. Lockhart to Col. Preston

5 December 1780 Publick

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(4) Patrick Lockhart, son of James Lockhart, of Augusta Co., was for some years before the Revolution, a merchant in Botetourt County. In 1781 and 1782 he was a Major in the Botetourt militia and served with that rank at Yorktown. There are several letters from him in Vols. 2 and 3, *Calendar of Virginia State Papers*. He was a member of the Convention of May 1776. The Surry, C. H. referred to was in North Carolina.

## THE DEPOSITION OF WILLIAM SPRINGSTONE(5)

formerly a Trader in the Cherokee Town called Sertigo and occasional Interpreter to the Virginia Agent for Indian affairs—saith that on the 22<sup>d</sup> day of November last the Raven Chief of the Cherokees returned from a Treaty with the British Agent in Georgia and that said deponent was informed by one of the Indians that was of the Raven party that he had received a War Talk from Col'o. Brown and had agreed to go to War Immediately with the inhabitants of Virginia & Carolina settled on the Western Waters that part of the American Traders in the Towne was to be murdered and others made prisoners that they were to carry to Georgia the prisoners And all the Horses they might take when at War for which they were to receive pay in Goods in the month of March next This deponent further saith that the Raven Chief informed him that he was done with the Big Knife; had laid down their Talks and would now truly listen to his Father over the Great Water. This deponent further saith that he was informed by the Indians that the British Agent had nominated the Raven as the principal chief of the Nation; who had accepted of a customary medal and was received as such by the warriors in the Room of Occouostota

This deponent further saith that several small parties had been out from the town of Chilhowee one of which had killed a lad on Holstein in Carolina another had murdered a young woman in Powell Valley and frequently had drove in gangs of horses taken on the Kentucky path, and elsewhere. Also that a party from the town of Toka with John Watts had brought in Horses and booty from the Kentucky path, this

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(5) This deposition has been printed in the *Calendar of Virginia State Papers*, I 446. In Decembe., 1780, a force of North Carolinians under Col. Sevier inflicted a severe defeat on a party of Cherokees. On the 22d of the month they were joined by a force of Virginians under Col. Arthur Campbell, and the combined forces made a very successful campaign against the Indians, burning a number of their towns and forcing them to sue for peace. Nancy Ward, a famous Cherokee half-breed woman, who was always friendly to the whites, came to the camp of Seiver and Campbell and asked for peace. See letter of Arthur Campbell, *Calendar of Virginia State Papers*, I, 434, and, for Nancy Ward, *HANDBOOK OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN*. (Bureau of Ethnology) II, 916.

deponant further saith that when the Raven set out to go to Georgia he forbad any of his people or any of the Whites to go toward Virginia untill his return or they should suffer death, that said deponant was informed by some of the Indians that he with Mr. John Martin were to be put to death before they set out to war that said deponant then with Mr. John Martin, Ezekiel Bufferton, John Hawkins and Francis Budwine with the advice of some Indian friends and the assistance of Nancy Ward, with other Indian women, providentially made their escape.

And the deponant further saith not

William Springstone

Sworn to before David Loony

Sullivan County December 11<sup>th</sup>

We John Martin, Francis Beedwin, John Hawkins & Ezekiel Bufferton Traders in the Cherokee Old Town do certify that we fled with William Springstone from the Cherokee upper Town the                      of November last being satisfactorily informed that the Indians intended shortly after to put us to death and know and believe that the above deposition contains the truth.

JOHN MARTIN

FRANCIS BUDWINE

Signed JOHN HAWKINS

EZEKIEL BUFFENTON

A copy

[Endorsement] Wm. Springstone's deposition about the Cherokees.

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WILLIAM CAMPBELL(6) TO WILLIAM PRESTON

Aspin-ville, Dec<sup>r</sup>. 12<sup>th</sup> 1780

Sir,

A Letter from you, directed to Col. Arthur Campbell and myself, came to my house at a time when I happened to be from home—I am informed that in it you desire my Sentiments of Major Rowlands' appointment ,to go

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(6) Colonel, afterwards, Brigadier General William Campbell, also commanded at Kings Mountain. The Major Rowland referred to was Thomas Rowland of Botetourt County.

with the Botetourt Volunteers to the Southward. I can assure you that I am perfectly satisfied with it, and I make no doubt but Col'o. Arthur Campbell will be so likewise; and as the Men are ready to march, the sooner he sets out with them, the better it will be, as the weather is growing very cold and disagreeable—The Reports from the Cherokees have prevented our making any Attempt in this County to raise men for the Southern Service: I have heard nothing from them for a few days, and whether they will actually commence Hostilities upon us this winter I cannot determine, but from every circumstance a war with them seems inevitable—They have already begun it in Georgia in which the Raven Warrior had a part; and in the Treaty held there, this Country was given to that tribe, if they would conquer it I am told that the Raven has said he will come in here, and set down his foot, and that he will not take it away—I send you an Extract of a Letter I received the other day from Col'o Clarke of Georgia, which will give you some Idea of the Cruelties the Tories and Indians have been guilty of in that state about the month of September last, and which, I expect, was the principal Reason of Col'o. Picken's & Major Berry's coming to us at Gilbert Town, to request that no more small Parties of Soldiers might be sent into this Country: as it answered no other purpose than to draw upon our Friends in that Quarter the Resentment of our Enemies

I am Sir your most obd<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

Wm Campbell

Col'o. Preston

[Endorsed] Col'o. Wm. Campbell Dec. 12, 1780

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EXTRACT FROM COL'O. CLARK'S(7) LETTER

Several Men of Credit from that State who have escaped the General Massacre relate the matter in words to the following Purport:

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(7) Elijah Clarke, of Ga., afterwards Brigadier General, who distinguished himself in many engagements with the British, Tories, and Indians.



That after the unexpected Blow, I gave the Enemy under Brown in Augusta, about the middle of September last, and my necessary retreat from that Country to your side the mountains, a Col'o. Cruger from Ninety Six, with Brown and a Body of Tories and Indians, followed us into the upper Settlements of Georgia, and finding us out of their reach, fell upon our sick and wounded, together with old Men, Women and Children of the families of those that adhered to, or retreated with me. Also several Tory Families (I suppose thro' mistake of the Indians) were murdered in the most cruel manner: Women and Children strip'd, scalped, and suffered to welter in their gore, unassisted antill they expired with hunger and pain: Lads obliged to dance naked between two large fires, untill they were scorched to death. Men strip'd dismembered, and scalped, afterward hung up—It is too painful for me to dwell on this gloomy subject, my own family being lost in the general calamity

Elijah Clarke

[Endorsement] Extract from Col'o. Clarke's Letter Georgia

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GEORGE SKILLEN TO WILLIAM PRESTON

December 13<sup>th</sup> 1780

Dear Sir

Yesterday I marched off Sixty Volunteers all fine men well fixed and with Rifles. Indeed the finest Company I ever see, under the command of Capt. Handly, who is to march by the Nighest Routes for the Southern Army. Capt. Robinson will march with about fifty Volunteers tomorrow. I would have ordered them to march by Flowers gaup, But as I am informed it is fifty Miles Round. I was doubtfull of being Reflected upon for Disobedience of the Governor's Orders, However should you approve of sending an Express to Col'o. Campbell, perhaps he would send his order to Captns. Handly & Robinson to join him from Moravian Town. I have Ordered a draft from this County of 140 men which will start for the mines by Friday next, as I shall use every effort in my power to expedite their march. If there is any-

thing ought to be done respecting this Indian Enemy or otherwise you will please to wright me, you can hardly Imagine the plague I have had with the Voulenteers before I can get them off, as I Realy have Not Been at home 'this ten days

I am Dear Sir your most

Obt. Humble Servant

Geo. Skillen

[Endorsement] Col'o. Skillen to Colo. Preston

13 December 1780

[Address] Public Service

Colo. Wm. Preston

in

Montgomery

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EXTRACT FROM COL. CAMPBELL'S LETTER

Major G. Christian's Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> 1780

Sir

By an express I am inform'd that the trail of about 20 of the Enemy was discovered yesterday 30 miles below this, making up the River—This I conclude may be the advance to a large Body; consequently we will have fighting nearer than the Towns—I am sorry and ashamed of the tardy preparations of our Militia for War—They must exert themselves or the Country will be subjected to great desolation—I hope you will hurry the Men down as well provided with provisions as possible—The Country below the No. Fork abounds with Corn; consequently we need not starve.

[Endorsement] Extract from Letter from Col'o. Wm. Campbell. Dec<sup>r</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> 1780

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[Printed]

ORDER IN COUNCIL

In Council, April 12, 1781

Sir

Having received an application from the Commanding Officer to strengthen our army below, and being very un-

willing to harass the Militia more than shall be absolutely unavoidable, we are in hopes an immediate and sufficient accession of force may be obtained by application to the several Counties for their delinquents in Militia duty whom the Law sentences to six months service. Every County we are confident, must have a number of these, and the laying them under the penalty is a justice due to the better part of the County, on whom, without a strict execution of the Law, the whole Militia duties will fall: These are now become too weighty not to be exacted equally and rigidly from all. Should your delinquents have been not yet sentenced, you will be pleased to call a Court-martial immediately for their trial. You will consider it as a standing part of the duty of the Officer, whom in my letter of the 30<sup>th</sup> of March, 1781, you were desired to appoint for receiving recruits for the war, to receive from time to time, all persons of whatever denomination, sentenced to serve in the army, and instruct him to march them to this place whenever he shall have such a number as the distance and public necessity may render it expedient to march. The delinquents now particularly called for he must march immediately on their receipt to Williamsburg. By executing this requisition, justice will be done to the past services of the worthier part of your County, the tardy will be punished, due obedience to the Laws insured in future, the military duties equally and justly divided, and the necessity of an immediate call on me for more Militia prevented.

I am, with much respect, Sir,

Your most obedient Servant

Thomas Jefferson

[Address] County Lieutenant

or Commanding Officer of Militia, Montgomery

[Endorsement] Governor's Letter, Ap. 1781

Demanding the Delinquent or 6 months men now in the County  
Order of Coucil 12 April 1781

GOVERNOR JEFFERSON TO THE COUNTY LIEUTENANT OF  
MONTGOMERY CO.

Charlottesville, May 28, 1781

Sir

Lord Cornwallis from Carolina and a reinforcement of 2000 men from N. York having joined the hostile army which was before here & crossed James river renders it necessary for us to bring a very great force into the field. as I have reason to believe you have not sent the whole number ordered to the Southward by my Letter of Mar. 29—You will now be pleased to send under proper officers whatever number you were deficient to join immediately our army under Maj<sup>r</sup> Gen<sup>l</sup> the Marquis Fayette. As it is uncertain whether he will retire northwardly or westwardly I would advise that your men come by the way of Charlottesville should no movement of the enemy render that unsafe. You will be pleased to understand that the number you are now required to send, with those actually marched to the Southward are to make up 187 as formerly required. let every man who possibly can come armed with a good rifle and those who cannot must bring a good smooth bore if they have it. They must expect to continue in the field two months from the time of their joining the army. Cavalry, in a due proportion being as necessary as infantry you will be pleased to permit and even to encourage one tenth part of those who are to come into duty as above required to mount and equip themselves as cavalry, they must not be received however unless their horses be really good and fit for service. A short sword can be furnished them by the State, tho' if they can procure a proper one with other equipments themselves they had better do it. Their horses and accoutrements shall be ensured by the public against everything but their own negligence and they shall be allowed forage for them in addition to their own pay and rations.

I need not urge you to the most instantaneous execution of these orders. Till the reinforcements now called for get into the field, the whole Country lies open to a most powerful army

headed by the most active, enterprising & vindictive officer who has ever appeared in arms against us.

Your most obed<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

Thomas Jefferson

Address] Cty. L<sup>t</sup>. Montgomery

Endorsement] Governor Jefferson's letter

28 May 1781

187 Men directed

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WILLIAM FLEMING(8) TO WILLIAM PRESTON

Staunton, June 12 1781

D<sup>r</sup>. Sir.

Accompanying this you will receive an official Letter, requesting an Aid of Riflemen. Our situation is very critical at this time. Cornwallis so greatly outnumbering the Marquiss in horse, altho they are but raw men, great numbers of boys, and badly equipped, yet they enable him to make sudden excursions, and plunder the inhabitants at a considerable distance from his main body. to put the Marquiss on a footing with Cornwallis by giving him as many riflemen as we can. on Monday last Tarlton took possession of Charlottesville. The Assembly adjourned to this place, and last Monday, a house of delegates & Senate proceeded to business.

Gen<sup>l</sup> Nelson is appointed Governor, Col. Wm. Cabell, Sam<sup>l</sup>. McDowell & M<sup>r</sup>. Hardie to the Council, the vacancies to Congress will be filled up today. Since I begun the above, the peculiar circumstances and situation of your County & Washington has induced the members of Council to withdraw the requisition of men from either of them—Tarlton after his exploit at Charlottesville, in which he took the late L<sup>t</sup>. Governor Diggs, Col. Symne, and a son-in-law of D<sup>r</sup>. Walker's prisoners with some Delegates amongstt whom is Col: Boon and Swearingham from Kentucky destroying a few publick

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(8) William Fleming, of Botetourt County, who as senior member of Council, acted for some days as Governor. Several notices of him are in print. When British forces under Tarleton advanced on Charlottesville, where the Assembly was in session that body fled to Staunton.

stores and considerable private property of a M<sup>r</sup>. North's, joined Symcoe, who had a body of Infantry with his Cavalry and proceeded towards Point of Fork, when we had a considerable quantity of stores, with Baron Stubein and a body of troops the Baron, got the stores over James River, but on an alarm marched off, and some of them fell into the Enemies hands. Cornwallis bent his whole force that way. General Wayne joined the Marquis last Saturday—in Culpepper and immediately marched through Orange by the foot of the Mountain to stop the Enemy and give an opportunity to the riflemen to join him as soon as he is in force we may expect that an action will ensue, the consequences doubtful unless the Marquis is strongly reinforced. The news of our success to the Southward gains ground here. I shall not add anything more than I am with the greatest regard

Yours Sincerely

Will'm. Flemming

[Address] Col'o. William Preston

June 30<sup>th</sup> 1781

Montgomery

Lieut Capt. Byon

[Endorsement] Col'o Flemings Letter June 1781

from Staunton—Official

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TO COL. CROCKETT

July ye 2<sup>d</sup>. 1781

Sir

On application to the Governor and Council they have agreed that the Militia of Montgomery be divided into two Battallions, the Command of the first Battallion therefore falls upon you [Col. Ingles] and the second on Col. Crockett, yourself.

By a letter from His Excellency the Governor dated the 29<sup>th</sup> of last month it appears that L<sup>d</sup>. Cornwallis with his Army has formed a Junction with the other British troops in this State which makes it necessary to call on the several counties for assistance; and has therefore made a positive demand from this County of the 187 men properly officered, that were to be sent to join General Greene. These troops

are now required to march down the Country by the way of Charlottesville with all imaginable speed, and to continue two months on Duty after they arrive at Head Quarters in this State, or receive the Orders of the Commander in Chier of our Troops where to act during that time, each man to be armed with a Rifle or good smooth bore, and every tenth man to be mounted on a good Horse to act as Cavalry with such accoutrements as he can procure, if swords cannot be had here they will be supplied below; That Pay, Rations & Forage will be allowed and if the horses be lost except by negligence, they will be paid for.

In consequence of this requisition, I must therefore request of you to give immediate and pressing Orders to all the Officers in your Battallion except Maxwell's and Inglis's, Moor's, Pearis's & Lucas's companies to draught every fifth man agreeable to my Orders of the 9<sup>th</sup> of April last at Sam'll. Thompson's. That those who were then Ordered to Carolina and failed to go may perform their tour of Duty in this State. That proper Officers be appointed, also a Commissary, and that they meet at Hands Meadows on the 1 Day of this Instant fully equipt and ready to march from thence with all possible expedition.

I beg leave to give you an exact copy of the last paragraph of the Governor's letter—"I need not urge you to the most instantaneous execution of these Orders. Fill the Reinforcements now called for get into the field the whole Country as a powerful Army, headed by the most active, enterprising and vindictive officer who has ever appeared in Arms against us."

In addition hereto I can only beg of you for Heaven's sake to spare no pains, but use every possible exertion to raise these men by the time appointed. The Draught for the Continental Service being put off and the men indulged to serve in their own State will I hope prevail on them to turn out on the present important occasion with cheerfulness.

I am Sir your most Obed<sup>t</sup> hbl Serv<sup>t</sup>

[Endorsement] Letter to Col'o. Crockett

2nd July 1781

## WILLIAM CHRISTIAN(4) TO WILLIAM PRESTON.

Mahanaier, the 30<sup>th</sup> of Aug<sup>r</sup>: 1780

Sir

Last week Col. W. Campbell sent a young Negro Fellow of his here. On Sunday he set off to go home and in about three Hours he returned and told us that near the Sinking Spring about four men armed and one unarmed, all on Horse back came up with him and said they must see what letters he had & know his news; that ten of them had been watching Col. Christian's all Day on Saturday for him; that they would hang him as soon as they reached peek Creek, where the rest of their Company men waiting; that his master injured them therefore the would destroy his Property wherever found and kill him self and his wife, and that they were then on their way to his House. On the Information, I hurried up with Dann & Stephen Trigg(4a); we could make no Discovery--We

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(4) William Christian, another leading man of Western Virginia. See this Magazine VII, 14, 243, 244; XVI, 170, 171; XVII, 52 et seq; 169 et seq. (4a) The Trigg family first appears in Virginia in Middlesex County in the latter part of the Seventeenth Century. The register of Christ Church parish there shows that Daniel Trigg and Susan his wife had issue: Abraham, baptised May 4, 1684; Sarah, baptised Dec. 26, 1686. There may have been other children. Thomas Kidd and Alice Trigg were married Sept. 18, 1690. A Daniel Trigg died Aug. 13, 1716. Whether he was the Daniel above, or his grandson, could probably be ascertained by an examination of the Middlesex records.

Abraham<sup>2</sup> Trigg (son of Daniel) married 1st Dec. 14, 1705, Elizabeth Guest, 2d Judith Clarke on Jan. 11, 1710.

Issue (1st M.) 3. Mary, baptised March 9, 1706; 4. Elizabeth, baptised May 29, 1709; (2d M.) 5. Susannah, baptised March 1, 1711; 6. Daniel<sup>3</sup>, baptised June 24, 1713; 7. William<sup>3</sup>, baptised May 18, 1716; 8. Abraham<sup>3</sup>, born April 14, 1719.

About 1750 the family began its westward movement going to King and Queen and Spotsylvania. Daniel Trigg, witnessed a deed in Spotsylvania in 1752, and on Oct. 1, 1759 bought 500 acres in the same county for £80. Daniel, William and Mary Trigg were witnesses to a deed in Spotsylvania 1764. Daniel Trigg died intestate and on March 6, 1769, Mary Trigg, his widow, qualified as his administrator. And on Sept. 4, she qualified as guardian of William, Nancy and James Trigg, infant orphans of Daniel Trigg. The will of John Trigg was dated Feb. 17, 1776 and proved in Spotsylvania May 21, 1778. His legatees were his sister Ann Carter and his brother Thomas Trigg. He states that his brother William Trigg, who was then his father's administrator, had not given him his part of the estate. There is in Spotsylvania a deed in regard to certain slaves between William Trigg of Spotsylvania, of the 1st part; James Trigg of King and Queen of the 2nd part, and Mary Trigg, widow, of Spotsylvania, guardian of Thomas Trigg, of the 3d part. These were probably the widow and some of the children of Daniel



are not fully satisfied about the whole story, but believe the Boy was frightened some how or other. He persists in his story & I suppose will scare his Mistress, from home with it, if she has confidence in the Boy's Integrity. Some Letters the Boy had were opened & he says the men read them, but on hearing some Waggon's approaching they rode off. The Boy did meet the waggon seemingly in great fright & had the Letters in his hand—He said the men finding them on private business threw them down.

Capt. Trigg has ordered a man from his Company with the Boy; and I was supposing you would think it proper for the satisfaction of M<sup>rs</sup> Campbell's family to direct some two trusty men to his House, until his return.

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Trigg of Spotsylvania. William Trigg was administrator of James Trigg 1786. In the will of Clement Montague, of Spotsylvania, he makes bequests to his daughter Elizabeth, wife of Jonathan Carpenter, and to the children she had by her former husband James Trigg, except her son William Trigg. William Trigg and his wife Ann, of Spotsylvania, made deeds in 1777 and July 2, 1786. They were living in that County in 1799. Daniel Trigg and Sall Abbott were married in Spotsylvania Nov. 15, 1799.

There is not sufficient documentary evidence at hand to show whether the Triggs of Southwestern Virginia removed directly from Middlesex, from Spotsylvania or from King and Queen. Several traditional accounts are vague, and in some respects, incorrect. One account states that Abraham Trigg came from Cornwell to Spotsylvania County, Va. (a county which did not then exist) in 1700. This was evidently intended for Abraham<sup>2</sup> above. He is stated to have had a son Abraham, who married Susan Johns and to have had a son William Trigg of Botetourt and Bedford, who married Mary Johns.

Another account gives the same two generations, Abraham and his son William.

The will of William Trigg was dated Sept. 15, 1772, and proved in Bedford Feb. 22, 1773. His legatees were his wife Mary, and children Abraham, Stephen, John, William, Daniel, Mary, Lackey and Sarah.

William and Mary Trigg had issue: 1. Abraham, commanded a company of Militia which fought at the battle of "The Shallow Ford of Yadkin" in 1780; M. C. 1797-1809; 2. Stephen, Justice of Botetourt 1770, of Fincastle, 1772; Burgess for Fincastle at session of June 1775 and of Convention of July 1775. He was also a member of the Fincastle Committee of Safety 1775. He commanded a company in Dunmore's War, removed in 1779 to Kentucky Co., which he represented in the Legislature 1780, and was killed at the battle of Blue Lick, Aug. 19, 1782. He married Mary, daughter of Col. William Christian. 3. John, Captain in Bedford Militia during the Revolution, and M. C. May 1797-May 17, 1804, when he died; 4. William, commissioned Lt. Col. Bedford Militia, Dec. 28, 1778; married Sarah—, and had seven children; 5. Daniel, born Aug. 14, 1749, appointed Captain Montgomery Co. Militia April 2, 1777, married 1st Ann Smith (?). 2d Lucy Booker.

I have desired this man to send this Letter by some Opp'n frsm Port Chiswell or thereabouts, as I fear you are at the Mines.

The French Armament arrived the 11<sup>th</sup> of July some where in the Jerseys; and Admiral Graves the 13<sup>th</sup> with six British Ships. of the Line. I have not heard the French Force. The lower country have cheifly raised their men, & are in good Spirits. I hear Col. Crocket is to march down this River directly, with four or five hundred Men.—

Our poor little Child's still sick having different Disorders.

Adieu

Wm. Christian—

[Address] For Col. William Preston

[Endorsements] Wm. Christian to Col. Preston

30 Aug<sup>t</sup> 1780

Among later generations have been: Connally F. Trigg, born at Abingdon, March 8. 1810, who removed to Tennessee in 1856, and who, on July 2, 1862, was appointed U. S. Circuit and District Judge for Tenn., and died near Bristol April 25, 1880.

Connally F. Trigg born at Abingdon, Sept. 18, 1841, M. C., 1885-1887, and Daniel Trigg (son of Dr. Daniel Trigg and his wife Ann Munford, daughter of Dr. Alexander Tompkins) who entered the Naval Academy, resigned in 1891, and entered the U. S. Navy, where he rose to the rank of Lieutenant. He was a member of the House of Delegates from Washington County, 1882.

This account of the family from Southwestern Virginia was gathered from rather vague information and there may be errors. If so, corrections are desired.

[This page, properly numbered 165, was, by accident, omitted from the April Magazine. This page began with "Are not fully satisfied," &c., of the text, and ended with "Lucy Booker", in the note. The whole letter of Wm. Christian, which began on page 164 of the April No., has been republished here, in full, with the notes.]

(To be Continued)